

1914.

THE THIRTIETH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF CROMER,

T. CHEVERTON, BOND ST., CROMER.

1915.



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REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ending 31st December, 1914.

CROMER,
2ND MARCH, 1915.

GENTLEMEN,

The past year was remarkable in more ways than one. In contrast, the rainfall was 22·29 inches on 197 days as compared with 1913, when only 16·20 inches fell on 203 days; though more rain fell, yet the total amount of bright unclouded sunshine recorded was 1697·7 hours, being 250 hours more than in 1913. April gave the best record with a total of 237·8 hours, August being second with 219·0 hours, thus showing that the spring as well as the autumn months are frequently as fine as the summer for visitors to come to Cromer.

The mean shade temperature, 50·5 degrees, was 0·4 above that of last year.

The outbreak of war on August 4th had a most disastrous effect on the season, which gave every promise of being one of exceptional prosperity, as the place was rapidly deserted by the visitors early in August.

In the middle of the year there were 997 houses inhabited, as compared with 995 in 1913.

Four small, old cottages in Tucker Street were pulled down and three erected in their stead.

Under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, I have visited with the Sanitary Inspector 6 houses ; total visited up to date, 366, of this number 211 were satisfactory.

STATEMENT

required by Article 5 of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, in regard to the inspection of dwelling-houses under Section 17 of the Housing, Town Planning &c Act, 1909.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|----|
| No. of dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purposes of the Section | ... | ... | 6 |
| No. of such dwelling-houses which were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | | | 0 |
| No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which representations were made to the local authority with a view to the making of closing orders | | | 0 |
| No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders were made by the local authority | | ... | 0 |
| No. of dwelling-houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders | | | 20 |
| No. of dwelling-houses which, after the making of closing orders, were made fit for human habitation | ... | ... | 0 |

GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DEFECTS FOUND TO EXIST IN THE DWELLING HOUSES INSPECTED.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Stairs defective | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Rain water guttering etc. defective | | ... | ... | | 2 |
| Yard required paving | | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Houses damp | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Privy defective | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| | | | | | — |
| | | | | | 8 |
| | | | | | — |

The water supply has been maintained in its usual state of purity, and there have been no complaints of the deposit of oxide of iron during this year, the filtration having proved very satisfactory.

The drainage and sewerage of the town has been satisfactory.

The disposal of refuse of the town by means of the Destructor has been most satisfactory.

The sanitary arrangements of the County Schools continue to be satisfactory.

Under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order I have with the Sanitary Inspector made inspections, visiting ten, and have insisted upon satisfactory covers for the milk cans.

The fish shops have also been visited.

Under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act no action has been necessary.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During this year there was a considerable decrease in the number of cases notified.

Five cases only of Scarlet Fever, four occurring in the first half of the year, all were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

Three cases of Diphtheria, one in a child who had recently come out of the Workhouse where there were other cases. The other two were notified by the Military Medical Officers, occurring in the squadron of Gloucester Yeomanry billeted in one of the hotels, probably caused by infection from the use of a bugle by a carrier, as the squadron had recently removed from an infected area. Both were removed to the Military Isolation Hospital, though a swab taken from the first gave a negative result.

Three cases of Enteric Fever were notified, two being fatal. Two gave a history of being unwell before coming to Cromer.

Two cases of Erysipelas, one, an infant, being fatal.

THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Four cases of Scarlet Fever were admitted in first half of the year, one case at end of September.

In November when the troops were sent here, a severe case occurring in the Warwickshire Yeomanry in Sheringham was admitted by your leave, to assist the Military Authorities, and discharged at end of the year. This case required for a short time the services of two nurses as well as two orderlies. I am glad to report that arrangements have been made by the Sanitary Authority of the East Anglian Territorial Ambulance Brigade to remove all infectious cases to their Hospital in Norwich.

Eight cases in all have been treated with an average period of detention of 32 days.

Miss Lapham having resigned at the commencement of July, Miss K. Donegan was appointed Matron, but owing to the outbreak of war, she was called up for active service and you determined to keep her appointment open during her absence. Temporary nurses have been engaged when required.

One case was admitted by your leave from Melton Constable Park in April, there being no other case in the Hospital.

One military case was admitted on a faulty diagnosis of Scarlet fever and after one week's quarantine was sent to Cambridge.

Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908, The Public Health (Tuberculosis in Hospitals) Regulations, 1911, and the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1911, I have received 5 notifications, all except one being resident in Cromer. I have made the necessary visits and given instructions for the prevention of infection.

In all cases of an infectious character the necessary bacteriological tests have been applied. 16 swabs of throats were taken, 5 sputums sent for examination and one Widal examination of blood.

During the autumn I inspected the billeting arrangements with the Local Government Board Inspector on whose suggestion a temporary arrangement was come to to give Hospital assistance in infectious cases occurring amongst the troops in this neighbourhood, and you agreed to place one bed at their disposal, but under the new arrangements this will not be necessary.

The Yeomanry which have been here during the autumn and winter months have been billeted in the large boarding houses and hotels, which have been found most suitable for their requirements and I have found them satisfactory in all respects.

I have been consulted by the Military Authorities with regard to any infectious cases that have arisen and have communicated with the P.M.O. in charge of troops the official weekly reports of infectious diseases as desired by the Local Government Board.

Under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, with the Sanitary Inspector I made one general inspection and have visited twenty. Defects found—

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| No sanitary convenience | ... | ... | 1 |
| Insanitary condition of premises | ... | ... | 1 |
| Drains choked... | ... | ... | 1 |

A nuisance caused by the smoke from the Steam laundry was reported to you and after notice was abated.

THE POPULATION

estimated in the usual way for the middle of the year shews an increase of 8, being 4346, as compared with 4338 in 1913.

THE BIRTH RATE

s 13·1 per 1000 population as compared with 16·1 in 1913

THE NETT DEATH RATE

is 7·5 per 1000 population as compared with 8·3 per 1000 population in 1913; the Standardized Death Rate is 7·7 as compared with 8·5 for 1913.

The Infantile Mortality is 122·8 per 1000 births registered as compared with 85·7 in 1913.

VITAL STATISTICS.

| | | |
|------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| Area | ... | 1007 acres. |
| Population | | 4346. (Census 1911, 4073) |
| Inhabited Houses | | 997. |
| Rateable Value | | £36,223. |

BIRTHS.

Males 27, Females 30, Total 57 (2 illegitimate).

DEATHS.

Registered deaths, 38, Nett, 33. Males, 19, Females, 14.
 Nett Death Rate, 7·5 per 1000 population.

DEATHS AT DIFFERENT AGES.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Under 1 year | ... | ... | 7 |
| Over 15 „ and under 25 years | ... | | 4 |
| „ 25 „ „ 45 „ | ... | | 5 |
| „ 45 „ „ 65 „ | ... | | 5 |
| „ 65 and upwards | ... | ... | 12 |
| | | | — |
| | | | 33 |
| | | | — |

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

7 deaths under one year; 122·8 per 1000 births registered,
 1·61 per 1000 population.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

2 deaths; 0·46 per 1000 population, 60·6 per 1000 deaths.

CANCER.

3 deaths; 0·69 per 1000 population, 90·9 per 1000 deaths.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

2 deaths from Enteric Fever, 0·46 per 1000 population,
 60·6 per 1000 deaths.

1 death from Measles, 0·23 per 1000 pop., 30·3 per 1000 deaths.

1 „ Erysipelas, „ „ „ „ „ „

CAUSES OF DEATH.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Enteric Fever | 2 |
| Measles | 1 |
| Erysipelas | 1 |
| Phthisis | 2 |
| Other Tuberculous Diseases ... | 1 |
| Cancer | 3 |
| Organic Heart Disease | 5 |
| Other diseases of respiratory organs | 1 |
| Diarrhœa and Enteritis | 3 |
| Congenital Debility & Malformation | |
| including Premature Birth ... | 2 |
| Violent deaths, excluding Suicide... | 1 |
| Other defined diseases | 11 |
| | — |
| | 33 |
| | — |

In conclusion I have to thank Mr. Croome for his kind assistance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

R. C. M. COLVIN-SMITH, M.B., B.C., B.A.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

*Fellow of the Society of Medical Officers of Health,
Medical Officer of Health.*

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and Previous Years.

| Year. | Population estimated to Middle of each Year. | Births. | | | Total Deaths registered in the District. | | Transferable Deaths. | | Nett Deaths belonging to the District. | | | |
|-------|--|----------------------|---------|--------|--|--------|--|---|--|---------------------------|--------------|--------|
| | | Un-corrected Number. | Nett. | | Number | Rate.† | of Non-residents registered in the District. | of Resi-dents not registered in the District. | Under 1 Year of age. | | At all Ages. | |
| | | | Number. | Rate † | | | | | Number. | Rate per 1000 Nett Births | Number. | Rate.† |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 1909 | 4,175 | 91 | | 21.7 | 35 | 8.3 | 2 | | 4 | 43.7 | 33 | 7.9 |
| 1910 | 4,263 | 81 | | 19.0 | 28 | 6.6 | 2 | | 1 | 12.3 | 26 | 6.1 |
| 1911 | 4,347 | 63 | 64 | 14.7 | 43 | 9.8 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 109.3 | 42 | 9.6 |
| 1912 | 4,325 | 68 | 68 | 15.7 | 41 | 9.4 | 6 | 2 | 6 | 88.2 | 37 | 8.5 |
| 1913 | 4,338 | 70 | 70 | 16.1 | 42 | 9.4 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 85.7 | 36 | 8.3 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1914 | 4,346 | 57 | 57 | 13.1 | 38 | 8.7 | 7 | 2 | 7 | 122.8 | 33 | 7.5 |

† Rates in Columns 5, 7, and 13, calculated per 1,000 of estimated population

Total Population at all ages, 4,073.
Number of Inhabited Houses, 934.
Average Number of Persons per House, 4.36

At Census of 1911.

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 1,007.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED.

| Notifiable Disease. | At all Ages. | Age under 1. | Age 1 to 5. | Age 5 to 15. | Age 15 to 25. | Age 25 to 45. | 45 and under 65 | Total removed to Hospital |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Diphtheria ... | 3 | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | — | 1 |
| Erysipelas ... | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| Scarlet Fever | 5 | — | 2 | 3 | — | — | — | 5 |
| Enteric Fever | 3 | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | — |
| Totals ... | 13 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 6 |

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH.

| Causes of Death. | All Ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 2. | 15 and under 25 | 25 and under 45. | 45 and under 65. | 65 and up-wards | Total deaths whether of residents or non-residents in institutions in district |
|--|-----------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Enteric Fever ... | 2 | ... | . | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... |
| Measles ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Erysipelas ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... |
| Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ... | 2 | ... | .. | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... |
| Other Tuberculous Diseases ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | .. | ... | ... | ... |
| Cancer, malignant disease ... | 3 | .. | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Organic Heart disease | 5 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 4 | ... |
| Other diseases of respiratory organs | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... |
| Diarrhoea & Enteritis | 3 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... |
| Congenital Debility Premature Birth | 2 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Violent Deaths excluding Suicide | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 4 |
| Other defined diseases ... | 11 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 3 | 7 | 1 |
| All causes { certified uncertified | 33 | 7 | ... | 4 | 5 | 5 | 12 | 7 |

Cerebro-spinal
Meningitis

1

1

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1914.

| Cause of Death | Under 1 Week. | 1-2 Weeks. | Total under 1 Month. | 1-3 Months. | 3-6 Months. | 6-9 Months. | Total Deaths under 1 Year |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| All Causes certified | 1 | | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| Measles | | | | | | 1 | |
| Erysipelas | | | | 1 | | | |
| Abdominal Tuberculosis | | | | 1 | | | |
| Enteritis | | | | | | 1 | |
| Gastritis | | | | | 1 | | |
| Congenital Malformation | | | | | | | |
| Premature Birth | 1 | | 1 | | | | |
| Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus | | | | 1 | | | |
| Total ... | 1 | | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 7 |

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Nett Births in { the year | Legitimate 55 Illegitimate 2 | Nett deaths in { the year of | Legitimate Infants 7 Illegitimate Infants 0 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

(Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.)

| Premises. | Number of | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | In- spectio ns. | Written Notices. | Prose- cutions. |
| Factories | 4 | — | — |
| Workshops | 16 | 1 | — |
| Workplaces | — | — | — |
| Total | 20 | 1 | — |

Cromer Weather Report.

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE.

The barometer was away for repairs and alteration to scale during the greater part of the second half of the year. The mean of 29·94 inches was slightly lower than that of the corresponding period last year.

The highest and lowest monthly means were January 30·129 inches and March 29·584 respectively.

The highest reading was 30·60 inches on January 12th, the lowest 28·66 inches on February 22nd, giving a range of 1·94 inches as against 1·88 inches in 1913.

SHADE TEMPERATURE.

The Mean Shade Temperature of 50·5 degrees was 0·4 degrees above that of last year.

August was the warmest month with 62·5 degrees, being 3·2 degrees higher than that of September in 1913.

The highest temperature recorded during the year was 85 degrees on June 30th and July 14th, being 5 degrees above the hottest day last year. January was again the coldest month with a mean temperature of 38·3 degrees and the lowest reading, 26 degrees, was registered on January 24th and December 25th.

SUNSHINE.

The total amount of bright unclouded sunshine recorded was 1694·7 hours, being 250 hours more than in 1913.

April gave the best record with a total of 237·8 hours, August being second, with 219 hours.

RAINFALL.

Rain was registered on 197 days and although this is a decrease the total of 22·29 inches is an increase on the previous year. December with 4·47 inches was by far the wettest month, rain falling on 26 days.

W. P. BAKER,

Observer.

Cromer Weather Report for 1914.

| 1914. | Barometer. Mean. | Dry Bulb. Mean. | Wet Bulb. Mean. | RAINFALL. | | | | SHADE TEMPERATURE | | | Sunshine. Hours. |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| | | | | Maximum of Day's Rain. | Date of Maximum | Total Fall. | Rainy Days. | Maximum. | Minimum. | Mean. | |
| January .. | Inches. 30.12 | Deg. 37.4 | Deg. 36.6 | Inches. 0.43 | 9 | Inches. 1.42 | No. 18 | Deg. 42.2 | Deg. 34.3 | Deg. 38.3 | Total. 37.2 |
| February ... | 29.73 | 41.9 | 41.1 | 0.23 | 18 | 1.22 | 17 | 50.0 | 38.2 | 44.1 | 103.6 |
| March ... | 29.58 | 41.8 | 40.8 | 0.37 | 20 | 2.52 | 21 | 48.8 | 37.5 | 43.1 | 107.0 |
| April ... | 30.09 | 48.4 | 45.9 | 0.12 | 24 | 0.40 | 10 | 57.5 | 41.5 | 49.5 | 237.8 |
| May ... | 30.09 | 51.2 | 47.6 | 0.27 | 5 | 0.97 | 13 | 58.4 | 44.9 | 51.6 | 203.6 |
| June ... | 30.04 | 56.6 | 53.2 | 0.77 | 9 | 1.79 | 12 | 64.0 | 50.4 | 57.2 | 204.9 |
| July ... | | 56.0 | 58.0 | 0.85 | 26 | 2.34 | 15 | 69.5 | 54.5 | 62.0 | 193.7 |
| August ... | | 61.7 | 58.4 | 0.84 | 5 | 2.03 | 14 | 68.1 | 56.8 | 62.5 | 219.0 |
| September... | | 57.0 | 53.4 | 0.26 | 19 | 1.05 | 13 | 64.4 | 51.4 | 58.0 | 190.5 |
| October ... | | 51.6 | 49.4 | 0.63 | 25 | 1.78 | 15 | 57.1 | 47.1 | 52.1 | 92.7 |
| November... | | 45.3 | 43.4 | 0.30 | 15 | 2.30 | 23 | 51.0 | 41.4 | 46.2 | 61.1 |
| December ... | | 41.0 | 39.7 | 0.83 | 28 | 4.47 | 26 | 45.8 | 37.5 | 41.6 | 43.6 |
| Totals ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22.29 | 197 | ... | ... | ... | 1694.7 |
| Means ... | 29.94 | 49.1 | 47.3 | ... | ... | 1.86 | 16 | ... | ... | 50.5 | ... |
| Year 1913...Totals ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16.20 | 203 | ... | ... | ... | 1440.8 |
| Means ... | 29.96 | 48.7 | 47.3 | ... | ... | 1.35 | 17 | 55.9 | 44.2 | 50.1 | ... |

W. P. BAKER, Observer.